UNCLASSIFIED

EXCISE

423

PT 2 of 3 SCS

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

TO: Amembassy Georgetown
Anconsul
FROM: Department of State (SCS)
TAGS: CASC (Griffith, Emmet A.)
SUBJECT: W/W: Emmett A. Griffith

REF:

DATE: 12/19/77
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Simms DATE 2-26-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

SPECIAL INTEREST: ( ) White House (x) Congressional ( ).....
Cong. Burton

The Office of Special Consular Services has received the enclosed communication which is forwarded to you for appropriate and prompt action as indicated:

(x) Direct reply to the special interest noted above—copy to SCS

( ) Direct reply—copy to SCS

( ) Direct reply—no copy to SCS

( ) Direct reply—route through SCS

( ) Direct report to SCS by means of .....

(x) Return original correspondence with your reply to Congressional office.

( ) For your information

Remarks: Please direct reply to the Congressman's San Francisco office. Key issue appears to be whether people have freedom to leave the People's Temple if and when they wish.

GRIFFITH, Emmett

NOTE: Whenever the action officer is in doubt or deems it necessary, for example if classified or administratively controlled material should be involved, the reply should be directed to the Office of Special Consular Services of the Department.

Enclosure(s): Communications dated December 7, 1977 from Congressman Phillip Burton.

CA/SCS/FL[illegible]enneke:ram

UNCLASSIFIED

FORM 9-61 DS-682

pt 2 of 3 SCS

P770190-1048 15 DEC 1977

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

67 SCS

December 7, 19 77

Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations
Department of State
2201 C Street
Washington, D.C. 20520

The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action in this matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

PLEASE RESPOND TO P. O. BOX 36023
Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate
Avenue, San Francisco, California
94102

77 DEC 15 AM 9 51

Very truly yours.

PHILLIP BURTON
M.C.

6th District.

Re: Welfare of Emmett A. Griffith & other members of Peoples' Temple Church in Guyana.

From [redacted] (4)

E 26

pt 2of 3 SCS

ENCLOSURE POOR QUALITY
RETURN TO FADRC

November 28, 1977

Congressman Phillip Burton
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA

RECEIVED
NOV 29 1977

Dear Sir:

We would like your assistance in a matter that has become a grave concern to me and my family. [redacted] Emmett A. Griffith, his family and a large group of friends were members of the People Temple Church in San Francisco. Their leader, or prophet as he is called is Jim Jones. He was active in our community and promised his followers to go with him to Guyana. They were induced into giving up their home to the Peoples Temple Church, other worldly goods and their life savings to establish a new venture. Jones said that he would set up an Communal State (Community) where they could find a new life and all would share in the profits of their labors. E B6

This was in 1977. Now, news has been coming back that all is not well. We hear reports of illness, forced labor and torture, as the result of their labor being taken over by Jones and a small corps with no accounting made to the group as a whole. Letters from [redacted] that we have received are vague and not written in his usual style. Misspelling of simple words and sentences that are inconclusive lead us to believe that something is wrong. I have talked with people who have visited in Guyana but I hesitate to make specific judgement or charges on hearsay evidence. E B6

These people are all United States citizens and we would appreciate your aiding in an investigation. We want to be assured that the government is prepared to the fullest extent will be there to help.

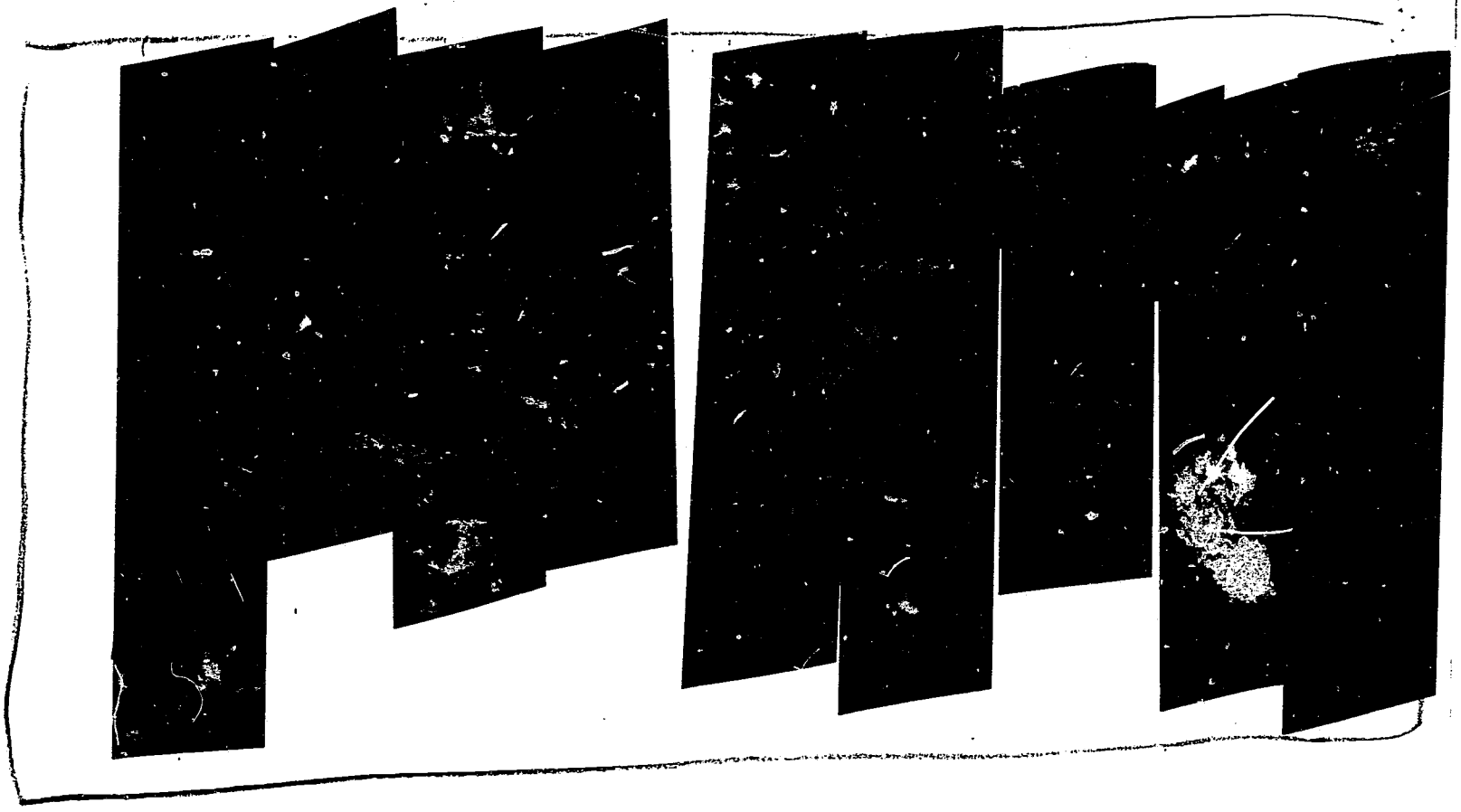
Thank you for your attention in this matter. Will you please give a reply to this letter within ten days.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] E B6

ENCLOSURE FOOR QUALITY
RETURN TO FADRC

E 136



ENCLOSURE POOR QUALITY
RETURN TO FADRC

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST Cong. Phillip Burton

MICROFILM NO: 0190-1048

Interim telephone reply to Judy Yee
(name of staffer)

JHA, by 12/16/77
(date) (SCS officer)

PLEASE INITIAL THAT FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN INFORMED
H - George Winnett ext. 21608 - by phone
SCA - Message Center - by immediately sending an extra copy of the control ticket properly annotated.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: OK to Georgetown

Note to typist; Please make copy of incoming and OM and send to Mr. Frank Tumminia, ARA/CAR, 3242.
Tumminia

(415) 556-4862

WELFARE/WHEREABOUTS INQUIRY PT 2 of 3 SCS DATE - 12/20/77 - (424) E

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST _____ PHONE _____

STAFFER _____ PHONE _____

NAME: Macy Griffith - 77 - Summer Emmett Sr. Yale -

DPOB _____ PASSPORT _____

Accompanied by Amanda, Marilyn + Emmett, Jr.

DPOB 17 15 PASSPORT 19

Address Abroad over 24 YRS - ~~At~~ Sept 75 -

Itinerary/Means of Travel _____

Reason for Concern _____

MESSAGE TO BE PASSED _____

REPLY TO BE RELAYED TO _____

CALLER [redacted] E 1.4 (b)

ADDRESS

PHONE

ACTION TAKEN: Cable drafted

BY: LP

TIME/DATE: 12/20 11:30

Griffith Macy/Emmett